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News Release

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March Hogs and Pigs

Michigan's total hog and pig inventory on March 1 was estimated at 1.21 million head, up 10,000 head from a year ago, according to Marlo Johnson, Regional Director of the USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region. Breeding hog inventory, at 120,000 head, remained unchanged from last March. Market hog inventory, at 1.09 million head, was up 1 percent from last year. The average pigs saved per litter for the December-February 2019 quarter was 10.90, compared to 10.70 last year.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2019 was 74.3 million head. This was up 2 percent from March 1, 2018, but down slightly from December 1, 2018. Breeding inventory, at 6.35 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 67.9 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down slightly from last quarter.

The December-February 2019 pig crop, at 33.0 million head, was up 3 percent from 2018. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.08 million head, up 2 percent from 2018. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high of 10.70 for the December-February period, compared to 10.58 last year.

United States hog producers intend to have 3.12 million sows farrow during the March-May 2019 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2018, and up 3 percent from 2017. Intended farrowings for June-August 2019, at 3.19 million sows, are down slightly from 2018, but up 3 percent from 2017.

Hog inventory and farrowings: Michigan and United States, March 1, 2019

Hogs and pigs	Michigan			United States		
	2018	2019	Change	2018	2019	Change
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Breeding	120	120	0	6,210	6,349	2
Market	1,080	1,090	1	66,538	67,948	2
Under 50 pounds	320	330	3	20,942	21,456	2
50-119 pounds	265	280	6	18,212	18,639	2
120-179 pounds	245	220	-10	14,996	15,268	2
180+ pounds	250	260	4	12,387	12,585	2
Total	1,200	1,210	1	72,748	74,296	2
Sows farrowed, Dec-Feb ¹	53	56	6	3,034	3,084	2
Pigs/litter, Dec-Feb ¹	10.70	10.90	2	10.58	10.70	1
Pig crop, Dec-Feb ¹	567	610	8	32,101	32,999	3
Sows farrowing, Mar-May ²	53	55	4	3,100	3,119	1
Sows farrowing, Jun-Aug ²	57	54	-5	3,200	3,191	0

¹ December previous year.

² Intentions.